

Inside:

- * Strip club stopped.....p.3
- * Letters to the editor.....p.5
- * Potpourri.....p.7

SPOKE

The next issue of SPOKE
will be published June 26

Conestoga College, Monday, June 12, 1989

Teachers vote 90% to reject colleges' latest contract offer

By Michael-Allan Marion

Community college teachers across Ontario voted by a margin of 90 per cent May 31 to reject the colleges' latest contract offer.

Union officials called the rejection impressive, but the chief spokesperson for the colleges said the voter turn-out of only 55 per cent sent mixed signals.

"We were predicting a high rejection vote and, boy, it sure turned out that way," said Paddy Musson, chairperson of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union bargaining team, which represents counsellors and librarians as well as faculty.

Musson said the rejection vote ranged from 85 per cent at Conestoga College to 97 per cent at St. Clair College, Windsor.

"Every local sent a good solid message about what they think of the offer," Musson said.

While only 55 per cent of union members voted, Musson said she was pleased with the turn-out, adding, "This is a difficult month, because people are normally away doing professional development or attending conferences and meetings."

Charles Pascal, chairman of

the Council of Regents (the colleges' bargaining agent), said the low turn-out weakened the union's claims of widespread dissatisfaction and sent mixed signals.

"I would have liked to see a larger level of participation to get the best reading possible,"

he said, but added the council would respect the vote anyway.

Musson said most members rejected the offer because they were dissatisfied with its job security and salary components.

The colleges had offered to set

See Teachers pg. 2

Talks with support workers also tough, says negotiator

By Michael-Allan Marion

Negotiations between the colleges and the support workers got under way May 17 at the Holiday Inn in downtown Toronto and there were soon signs that they are going to be difficult.

The two sides only met in three days of preliminary discussions — May 17, 25 and 26 — and no firm offer has been put on the table yet regarding the union's main requests of job security and salary increases. But the colleges have told the bargaining team for the Ontario Public Service Employees Union that agreement on the union's job security requests will be difficult to reach, according to Andre Bekerman, the union's senior negotiator.

"CAAT (Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology) has said negotiations are going to be tough on that one," he said.

Bekerman, who is also on the bargaining team for the teachers union, said agreement on a job security package will be as difficult for the support workers to reach as it is proving for the teachers.

"I've been involved in both sets of negotiations and this issue has been a tough one in both cases," he said.

The teachers voted to reject the colleges' latest offer May 31 and dissatisfaction with CAAT's job security proposals was cited by many union officials as a main reason for the result.

Bekerman said the colleges

See Talks pg. 2

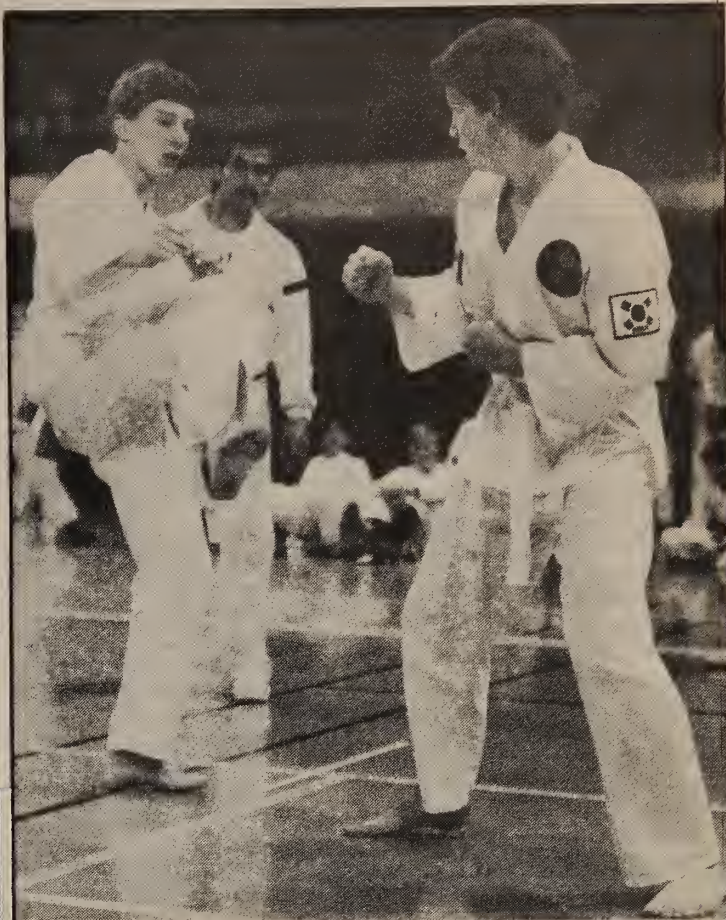


Photo by Scott McNichol/Spoke

Take that...

Ed Dufour (right) and John Bauer take part in the junior championship Tai Kwon-Do tournament held June 3 at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

See story and photos pg. 8

Program to help direct immigrants to jobs

By Alan Elliott

Conestoga College's Waterloo campus has a head start on the federal government in efforts to make the unemployment insurance system more efficient.

Project Mainstream, a program featuring English as a second language (ESL), was designed to work in tandem with the Canada Employment Centre to direct immigrants into the local labor force. Kitchener-Waterloo has one of Canada's highest per-capita rates for sponsoring refugees, according to a study done by the project.

The federal government, in its

latest budget, announced a tightening of purse-strings for unemployment insurance. Benefits will be reduced and more money will be directed into retraining.

But Margaret Stacey, the Kitchener Canada Employment Centre's acting area manager, said of the project, "It has nothing to do with the new reforms. This took place before that."

Project Mainstream's co-ordinator, Carol Trotter, said that federal government funding allocated for ESL programs goes dry regularly.

The regional employment office gave Stacey the authority to come

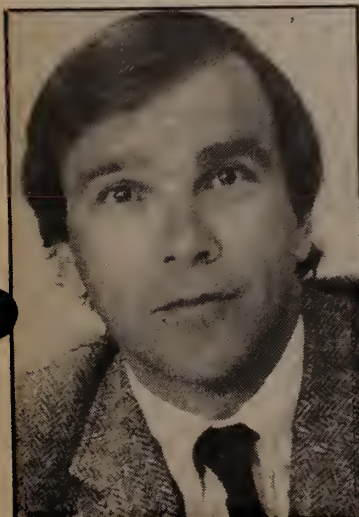
up with something more innovative, relating language skills to socialization and the work place.

"It certainly is much better use of our training dollars," Stacey said.

Application for a grant last February freed up \$600,000 of Canadian Jobs Strategy money under that program's provision that it help the severely employment-disadvantaged. Canadian Jobs Strategy defines severely employment-disadvantaged as those persons who face significant barriers to finding and keeping employment.

"Historically that has been

See Project pg. 2



John Tibbits

Board postpones final decision on budget

By Eric Schmiedl

Conestoga College's board of governors postponed its final decision on the proposed budget for 1989-90 in a meeting May 29.

"Formal approval will not take place until June," John Tibbits, college president, said in an interview. He added that formal approval of the budget is not a major concern.

"Really, it's just a rubber stamp," Tibbits said. The budget has basically been approved already, and the board will vote on the issue at the next meeting June 26, he added.

Tibbits said the final vote on the budget was held off because a number of board members were at the Association of Canadian Community Colleges conference, an annual event.

During the board meeting, Tibbits touched base on the contract talks going on between the colleges and faculty.

"It's too early to say exactly how they (the talks) are going to work out," Tibbits said. The vote on the latest contract offer was not held until May 31.

Tibbits also discussed one of the college's "primary thrusts" —

student admissions.

"We have increased our acceptances over last year by five per cent," he said, adding that the increase was "reasonably significant."

Other topics discussed at the meeting included the future of the board itself, as well as of the college.

The council of regents' liaison team initiated a discussion on the appointment of future board members. The focus was on a more diverse membership.

The board also heard the contents of a report produced by the pro-

That research will then be used to begin the planning process to identify what a school of applied arts should look like five years from now, said Carter.

The workshop lasted one day, but Carter said it was "just setting the stage for each program to put together its own five-year plan." She added that work at the program level would begin before the end of June.

When each program has developed its own five-year plan, they will be tabled against each other and a general plan for the college will be formulated, said Carter.

Carter said the target for the completion of the school plan is early September 1989.

gram advisory sub-committee.

The report, presented by David Hollinger, sub-committee member, urged the college to push delivery of ambulance and emergency care education.

In its report, the sub-committee also expressed concern over the qualifications of a graduate of the journalism-print program who didn't have adequate writing and grammar skills.

Patricia Carter, vice-president academic, will ask the program to come up with a plan to remedy the situation, according to the report.

Project teaches English language

from pg. 1

people in wheelchairs," said Trotter. "But now they have identified language as a severe restriction from employment."

Project Mainstream's application for funding complied with federal stipulations that the program be employment related and feature on-the-job training. The 35-week course includes a six-week work term and provides technical-English training on an individual or small-group basis.

During the course, students are taken on tours of a range of workplaces to help them decide where their skills may be applied. They are also taught how to locate work at the C.E.C. and how to handle job interviews.

In its application the project called the request for funds "timely," since the rapidly increasing settlement of refugees in Kitchener-Waterloo had chalked up an E.S.L. waiting list of 140 people.

Those accepted into the program have little or no facility in English. Many of the 64 students have professional backgrounds or skilled training and most come from eastern Europe, Central America or the middle east.

Because many have fled troubled homelands, the program provides instructors with experience in counselling victims traumatized by physical violence, torture and imprisonment.

Six hours daily classroom time include grammar, practical sessions and work-related English training. Students, for example, might act out a verbal exchange in a store or restaurant.

Classes also serve the resocialization process.

"It's not just language, but a lot of cultural awareness that they have to adapt to quickly," Trotter said.

Trotter said that class instruction

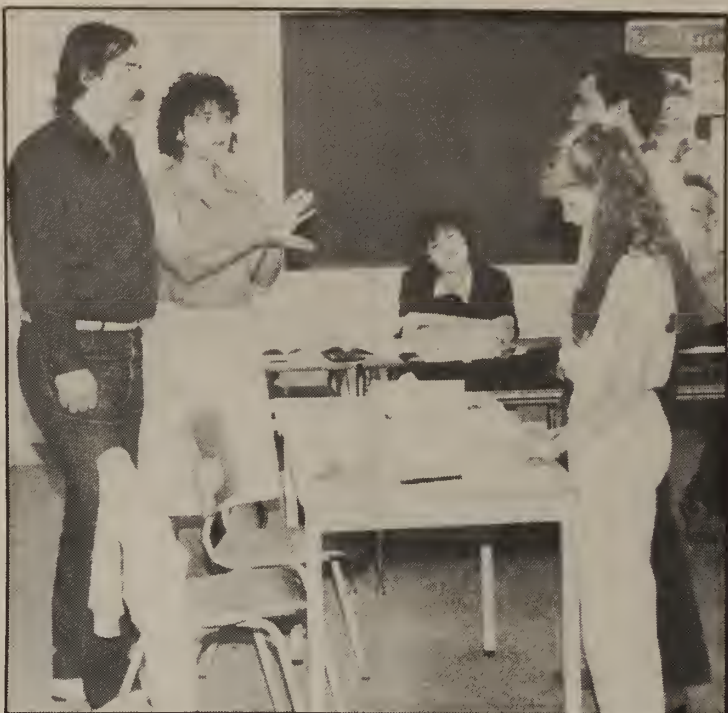


Photo by Alan Elliott

Instructor Christine Buuch (second from left) and students work on practical English in a McDonald's restaurant scene.

underlines the varying work ethics from culture to culture. Latin Americans may be unfamiliar with a North American employer's concern for punctuality. Or those from eastern Europe may be used to leaving work in the middle of the day for a food lineup.

"Here, time is money, and we keep telling them these things."

In planning Project Mainstream, Trotter studied other programs designed to guide workers into the Canadian labor market. She spent two days last September at the Vancouver Community College.

With an enrolment of approximately 1800 foreign students, Trotter said the Vancouver E.S.L. program is the country's most progressive. Besides language training, it offers job-entry

courses in seven areas, ranging from basic food preparation to nursing and skilled trades.

Project Mainstream plans to shoot a video documentary on their program to be shown to employment counsellors in other areas.

Trotter calls the Conestoga College effort a "demonstration project."

"If we're successful, it could possibly be used as a model for ESL projects for the province," she said.

Trotter said the market for programs training immigrants and refugees is huge and, in the college's case, has brought enough money into the school to renovate the masonry area into classrooms for the project.

Teachers from pg. 1

up a College Employment Stability Committee and contribute \$50 per teacher to a retraining and support fund for laid-off employees. But Musson said the offer was unacceptable to the union, adding, "The fund wouldn't begin to address the level of layoffs in the past few years."

Bill Cruden, chairman of the colleges' bargaining team, said shortly before the vote he thought the job security offer was creative and broke new ground.

"We're still far apart on this issue but you have to remember that this is still a relatively new area," he added.

Musson said the union was

also upset about the salary offer because members were tired of years of salary increases below the Ontario inflation rate. The colleges offered a 12.5-per-cent salary increase over two years, well below the union's request of 13 per cent over one year.

Musson blamed the colleges for wasting negotiating time by forcing a vote on an offer they knew would be rejected.

"They (the colleges' bargaining team) said they realized when they made their offer that faculty would turn it down" she said. "The question is, why did they waste everyone's time?"

Both sides said they were anxious to return to the bargaining table although no date has been set.

Talks from pg. 1

may also try to end the existing quick arbitration system that, by his account, has worked well for the support workers.

"It's hard to tell at this point," Beckerman said, "but they may want to eliminate it."

The quick arbitration system is an informal process under which grievances over job or pay classifications are settled between the union and a college administration. It was designed to avoid the usual formal con-

frontations which often involved lawyers and lengthy, expensive lawsuits.

Bekerman said the union is satisfied with the current system and wants it to continue.

"The beauty of it is that it tends to produce relatively sensible results quickly," he said. "We haven't had to go through any long frustrating process."

Negotiations were set to resume June 7 at the Holiday Inn.

Program gets new co-ordinator

By Scott McNichol

Fraser Cooper hopes to maintain the same atmosphere in the electronics engineering technology program which was there before he became the program's new co-ordinator June 1.

He said outgoing co-ordinator Nancy McConnell had "done a good job and I hope I can do the same."

He said that originally he didn't

want to take the position, but reconsidered.

"In some ways the job will be more demanding. It'll mean more work for about the same pay."

He said that he doesn't plan on making any changes over the next year.

"All the changes were made last year when Nancy McConnell was co-ordinator," he said, adding that it is now up to him to make sure things are followed through.

Cooper has taught at Conestoga

College since 1967. His favorite course is third-year optional navigational aids and radar systems. Before coming to the college, he worked with Raytheon, a company that designs and manufactures marine and aircraft electronics.

"I've always had a basic interest in this area, even though I'm not a sailor or pilot," he said.

Cooper said that he takes interest in all areas of electronics technology.

ORIENTATION '89

survival kit

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contact

DSA ACTIVITIES OFFICE

Correction

In the May 29 issue of Spoke, Brigid O'Reilly was quoted as saying that the new Pay Equity Act will help ensure equal pay for equal work. It should have read equal pay for work of equal value. Spoke regrets the error.

Attention Students!

If you're looking for a summer job, the Canada Employment centre for Students has a wide variety of occupations to choose from.

The centre, at 207 King St. W., Kitchener, is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays to serve you. Come down in person or phone 744-8151.

News Flash

If you have a news tip, or anything else that you think should be in Spoke, call the Spoke hotline:

748 - 5366

9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Weekdays

City council says no to new Doon strip club

By Michael-Allan Marlon

The *risqué* side of Kitchener was exposed May 29 as city council unanimously agreed to prohibit the opening of any more strip clubs in the city, and in the process poured cold water on designs to locate one near Conestoga College.

Council made the decision after listening to arguments, presented by three factions, on an application by owners of Kitchener Network to rezone land for an adult recreation parlor. It was to be located in

the commercial park near Homer Watson Boulevard and Highway 401, just west of the college.

One group of citizens urged council to prohibit any more clubs and to stop the spread of what they called "moral pollution."

A second group, composed of owners of the three established clubs — the Coronet, the East End Hotel and the Grand Hotel, told council it should not make moral judgments on legal enterprises and asked aldermen not to take action against their clubs.

Tom Ferguson, owner of the East End and Tommy's Place in downtown Kitchener, said later in an interview that "if our clubs are legal then city council has no business being moralistic."

"Politicians shouldn't make moral judgments about my kind of business just like it doesn't on any other kind," he added.

The third group, made up of businessmen with development plans in the commercial park, argued the location of a strip club in

the area would be a detriment to their businesses.

Wayne Lepine, spokesman for State Farm Insurance Co., said at the meeting he ordered the firm's architect to halt the design of a project planned for the commercial park until the application to zone for a strip club had been dealt with by council.

In the end council used the authority under Sec. 222 of the Ontario Municipal Act to prevent the opening of any further strip clubs. The act gives municipal govern-

ments the power to refuse to zone land for such business use or to arbitrarily prohibit strip clubs even if the land is already properly zoned.

Council made the decision in two motions. The first, moved by Ald. Gary Leadston, directed the city solicitor to draft a bylaw prohibiting re-zoning of the commercial park for adult entertainment clubs. The second, moved by Ald. B. Michael Hiscott, restricted the number of strip clubs to the current three businesses.



Photo by Scott McNichol/Spoke

Nature lover

Sue Gibbons, cafeteria cashier, feeds peanuts to the squirrels along the Doon campus paths. Cafeteria personnel frequently bring food to the little creatures.

Orientations at Guelph and Doon campuses a success

By Scott McNichol

According to organizers at the Doon and Guelph campuses, early summer orientations have been successful even with some low turn-outs.

"Our turn-out was very disappointing," said Joyce Uberig, manager of support services at Guelph campus. Out of the expected 100 students and parents only 46 attended the May 24 orientation.

She said the low attendance may have been the result of an earlier information session.

"People don't have the time to come out to all these events," Uberig said, adding that a lot of the information was the same for both days.

However, she said that for those who came it was quite beneficial. Counsellors talked about aspects of college life such as housing, books, parking and student activities. Also included were tours of the campus facilities which began at 4 p.m. and finished at 6

p.m. with a barbecue.

"The barbecue was an excellent idea," said Uberig. "It was an opportunity for students to sit down with teachers and counsellors and discuss any questions they might have still had."

The sessions, called Experience Conestoga College, are for first-year students entering diploma programs. Organizers at Doon campus scheduled 16 periods for students to come in, which started in May and will end June 22.

Barb Kraler, student counsellor at Doon, said that the orientations have been successful.

"We haven't had the largest groups yet, but the response has been quite good, especially for the evening sessions," she said. The largest number of people is expected to attend evening events later this month.

Kraler said that for Doon campus's orientations, incoming students are sent invitations and urged to reply if they are going to attend. Poor responses have led organizers to cancel June 13 and

June 15 day sessions.

"This is not a disappointment," Kraler said, adding that all she can do is act on what the numbers dictate. She also said that, because Doon's information nights are not the same as the Experience Conestoga sessions, they will not run into the problem Guelph campus had.

She said the reaction of students and parents has shown that there is no lack of interest.

"Students have said that they enjoy the more personal approach rather than being sent the information in the mail," said Kraler.

Besides Guelph and Doon campuses, Stratford campus will hold an early orientation day June 27 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. for the health sciences programs.

Doris Ryan, co-ordinator of Stratford's nursing program, said she is anticipating 100 students and parents will attend.

"We expect that everyone will attend," she said. The session will be structured almost the same as in Guelph.

Waterloo holds orientations

By Eric Schmiedl

Students starting classes at the Waterloo campus in September got their first taste of college life during Experience Conestoga College May 23.

Lorraine Garner, student services counsellor, co-ordinated the orientation day for incoming Waterloo students. Garner was "pleasantly shocked" at the response to the event. She had originally anticipated 80 to 100 people, but 180 — including students, as well as their friends and families — registered.

The orientation was "for persons who have been accepted into the programs," Garner said.

"What we're hoping to accomplish today is to send them (the students) away with information that they need about the campus, the college and their program," Garner said. "We hope that they'll have fun today and meet new friends."

Orientation days are being held at all Conestoga campuses. In the past they've been held in September.

"We found that gets a little confusing for people. They have so much to think about then, so we're sort of doing this in advance," Garner said.

The day's agenda included a welcome session in the cafeteria with program co-ordinators, as well as the Waterloo Students Association executive. Incoming students also got a chance to find out more about their individual programs by talking directly to the co-ordinators in workshops.



Photo by Eric Schmiedl/Spoke

Peer helpers (from left) Dean Martin, Rita Teixeira, Jeff Korsmeir and Hilary Weedmark.

"I think it (the orientation) has been handled really well," Garner said, adding the peer helpers, who helped new students become acquainted with the campus, were valuable throughout the day.

Peer helpers are students who have completed the first year of their program, Garner said.

Valerie Allen, peer helping services administrator, said the peer helpers received 18 hours of training in preparation for orientation. Their training included public speaking, working with groups and special needs training, she added.

Allen said there are four criteria for choosing peer helpers. They must have strong leadership qualities, possess good communication and interpersonal skills, have a minimum B average

and be recommended for the job by the program faculty.

"(Peer helpers) are a resource," Allen said. "There are some instances in which students can be more effective than faculty," she added.

"They're non-threatening . . . they're easily accessible. And probably the most important fact is they don't hand people a line — they're honest," Allen said.

In addition to the peer helpers, there were others who pitched in to make Experience Conestoga College a success, according to Garner.

"Waterloo campus has been wonderful," Garner said. "The people at Waterloo campus have been so co-operative — they've just extended themselves to make this a success," she added.

DSA orientation kits make fall '89 debut

By Zora Jokic

The Doon Student Association (DSA) expects its first-ever orientation kits will be a hit with students when they go on sale during Orientation Week from Sept. 5 to 8.

Cheryl Wilson, DSA activities co-ordinator, said order forms for the kits will be mailed to first-year students in June. She said it will be a new and different way to welcome first-year Conestoga students, but will be offered to other students as well.

The kit, which was a "combination of ideas" from the DSA executive committee, will include items like coupons and pencils from J.M. Schneider, a 10-ounce can of Heinz vegetable cocktail, a bag of Miss Vicki's chips and pamphlets and flyers from different companies, said Wilson.

"It's going to be a good value for what items are (going to be) in the kit," she said, adding that the DSA has contacted many other sponsors and is receiving favorable responses. She said it was a good way for the companies to advertise their products.

Wilson said that the main kit item, a T-shirt, will be a "hot item" and that it will carry the

calendar of events for Orientation Week on the back. Gary Porter, assistant activities co-ordinator, will design the front of the T-shirt, based on the 1989 orientation theme, "Doon (doing) the wild thing."

"I'm sure the T-shirt alone will encourage people to buy the kit," said Wilson.

Wilson noted that many universities have been selling their own orientation kits for years for a much higher price, although they contain larger items, like entertainment and food tickets. This is the first year the DSA has participated in such a project, and Wilson feels people will be surprised at how inexpensive but valuable the kit will be. It will cost \$7.50, said Wilson.

The orientation kit committee, consisting of Wilson, Porter, John Lassel, DSA president, Lynda Johnson, committee chairperson, and Todd Schott, assistant activities co-ordinator, is still planning the kit and contacting the sponsors. However, Wilson said the project is "definitely a go."

Wilson suggested those who are interested should put their kit orders in "as soon as possible," because she expects they will be sold out quickly.

OPINION

SPOKE

Editors: Zora Jokic, Eric Schmiedl
Production Editor: Scott McNichol
Circulation Manager: Julie Lawrence
Staff: Michael-Allan Marion
Contributor: Alan Elliott

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Book bans are wrong approach

By Scott McNichol

How many people do you know are on the wrong bandwagon?

Take for instance the people who are trying to ban books from school curriculums, great classics like William Shakespeare's *Merchant of Venice* or Canadian writer Margaret Laurence's *Stone Angel*. These people condemn such books because they believe the books are in some way immoral and discriminatory.

It's true that Shakespeare discriminated against the Jews and *Stone Angel* had sexual content, but what reason is that to ban such books?

One of the biggest arguments given by those in favor of banning is that the content of these books is a bad influence on young people. But things are only a bad influence if people can not distinguish the difference between right and wrong or moral and immoral.

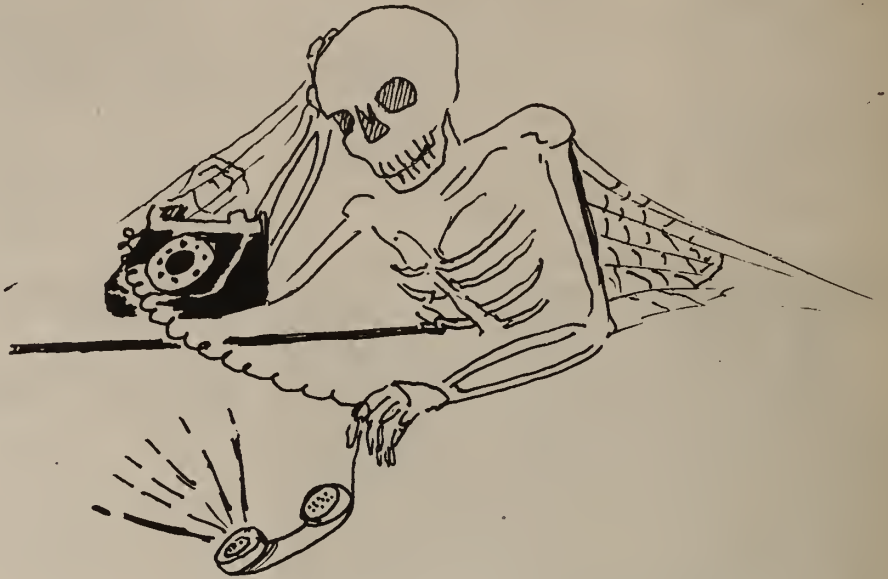
Obviously the bookbanners think today's children can not make that distinction. But why are these people attacking the books? The problem lies in how things are being taught in the schools and at home.

If children are given a good understanding of why it is bad to discriminate against others, then they might be able to better judge — for themselves — a book's faults.

If anything, books are tools to enhance the learning of morals. People who want the books banned are really trying to toss out the only good way of teaching this.

Shakespeare discriminated against Jews because during his lifetime this was the general attitude displayed by the people. If children are not allowed to see this, then how are they to learn from history's mistakes?

So instead of shouting "ban the book," people should be saying "teach the children." Teach them by way of example, using the problems seen in books to teach them both the right way of living and to see for themselves what is good and bad in the world.



"College switchboard, may I help you?"

YOU TELL US:

What could the college cut back on in its next budget?



They could use a few less desk positions in the nursing program.
Vicki Moerschfeider
 Second-year
 Food and Beverage
 Management



I don't think we can cut back any further without damaging the quality of education for the students.
Steve Hicks
 Shipping and Receiving



We're already operating under the tightest standards as it is.
Rudy Glowacki
 Clerical-Support Services



As far as my program is concerned I couldn't think of anything.
Eleanor Knowles
 First year
 NCMTSO



They could save money by hand-marking tests instead of using computer cards.
Laurie LeBlanc
 First-year
 Nursing Assistant



I couldn't see them cutting back on anything else in my program.
Todd Schott
 Second-year
 Business Management
 Studies

Pedestrians, cyclists are second class in car society



By
Eric Schmiedl

Being a person who as yet hasn't been able to afford a car, I've noticed that both bicyclists and pedestrians are treated as second-class citizens in our automobile-oriented society.

I don't know how many times I've been cut off when I've had the right of way on a bicycle. Granted, car drivers aren't always taking liberties with bicyclists just to see

what interesting obscenities they can learn while the bicyclist careens wildly off the road, cursing all the way. They simply don't see the hapless pedaller coming.

That's kind of unnerving to think about. I personally have no desire to get intimate with a couple of thousand pounds of Pontiac or Chrysler — the hard way.

As well as coming close to picking off the occasional 10-speeder directly, it seems a lot of drivers think nothing of using curbs as convenient concrete garbage bins. This is really bad when the refuse happens to be a broken beer bottle (ei yi yi!) or some other refugee from a transparent obstacle course.

Considering the average size of a bicycle tire, I'm amazed more cyclists don't get flung headlong into traffic as their tires are ripped to shreds by glass shards.

In addition, surrounded by the air-conditioned comforts a car supplies, it seems a lot of auto enthusiasts are unaware or don't really care about what goes on outside their vehicles.

I'm talking about the weather. Rain makes it difficult for a car to stop but even more difficult for a bicycle to stop. As well, the weather will affect the way a cyclist drives, as the bicyclist is in the thick of it.

Something car drivers don't have to worry about.

Pedestrians, as well as cyclists, don't fare too well in our car-loving ways. Take, for instance, late-night drive-throughs. A lot of these drive-throughs are open later than the inside restaurant portions of eating establishments.

So what's the big deal? Try ordering food via a drive-through without a car late at

night, after everything else has closed. Good luck.

One night I went to a drive-through establishment to place my humble order. After I had said my piece, what was to become an annoying voice crackled over the speaker system. The voice asked me to flash my lights.

"Well... I can't," I replied.

"Why?"

"I... err... have no car." My shame was complete.

"We can't serve you," the voice said. I had no recourse — the speaker shut off, and that was that.

Next time, I'm bringing a couple of flashlights to the drive-through. I can't wait to see the look on the face that goes with that... that voice.

Letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

I have to say thank you to all the people who were involved in the orientation for the new students.

Thank you for making me feel that I was already a part of a very beneficial experience.

Thank you to the students, as well as the teachers who were very friendly, and were eager to help make going to college something to look forward to. There were so many questions whirling in my head, and the

biggest question was "Can I do it?" After the orientation there was only one answer. You bet.

Thank you for making me believe that I am not just a student number, but a person. I enjoyed being at the college, and I look forward to having the opportunity to be part of a great experience.

Sincerely,
Lisa Mitchell

First-year
Computer
Programming/Analysis

Dear Editor:

I am a little concerned about the criteria of the Mastercraft Award our college system is based on.

In the old Guild System of Craftsmanship, craftsmen prided themselves on their manual craftsmanship, their ability to take raw material, and basic tools of the trade and use their own skill to fashion their finished product. It is my belief that the Mastercraft Award should reflect the founding principles of the Guilds upon which our college system is built.

For this reason I resent the fact that computer-assisted projects

are allowed for consideration of the Mastercraft Award. I believe there should be a separate category for the computer-assisted projects to compete in, and a handcrafted category created for traditionally-constructed projects.

Please advise me as to any future consideration to be made in the Mastercraft criteria.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.

Yours sincerely,
Joseph Cote

Student
Welder-fitter shop

This letter was originally addressed to Mr. Carl Hennigar, chairman of the board of governors.

Spoke welcomes letters to the editor. Writers should include their name, program and telephone number so the authenticity of the letter can be verified. Send to Letters to the editor, Spoke, 299 Doon Valley Dr. Kitchener, Ont. N2G 4M4.

Job security: the big issue



ANALYSIS

By

Michael - Allan Marion

In the past few years unions have changed emphasis in their bargaining strategies from demanding better pensions and benefits to introducing the new issue of job security. In the process, they have shifted from bargaining over the worth of a job to finding the means of protecting it.

While this trend pervades the bargaining rooms of all sectors of the economy, it is no more so the case than in the current contract negotiations between the Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology and the academic and support units of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union. Both unions place a high priority on the issue in their bargaining strategies. They want the colleges to bear the cost of retraining laid-off workers and supporting them during their education period.

Job security has become the major obstacle to a settlement between the academic staff and the colleges. Talks broke off between the two April 30 when the union's negotiating team took the colleges' offer of settlement to its

members for a vote May 31.

Paddy Musson, head of the team, cited dissatisfaction over the job security proposals as the major reason for the 90 per cent rejection vote. While the colleges did recognize the issue and make an offer, the two sides remain far apart.

Already there are indications the issue will have the same effect in the ongoing talks between the supports workers and the colleges. Andre Bekerman, senior negotiator for the union, said the colleges made it clear early on that progress on job security will be as difficult as it has been for the teachers.

New issues usually add rancor to negotiations, especially if there is fundamental disagreement over their validity in the bargaining process.

If one party believes a particular demand has no place in discussions, but that demand is important to the other party, then negotiators can expect the worst.

The union's position on job security is that an employer has a social obligation to protect an

employee from the effects of losing a job and to help ease the transition to new employment as compensation for the worker having been displaced.

This position has had the same early acceptance as any other issue where an employer has been challenged to accept social responsibility for the harsh realities of the marketplace. Its level of acceptance has been reflected in the tenor of the negotiations.

This issue will not die easily because it is driven by economic forces currently working their way through every industrial sector of the marketplace.

In an age of rapid technological change and international trade competition, Canadian business has displaced thousands of jobs while trimming and downsizing their operations to become "lean and mean" players in the new international economy.

Governments have done the same in their obsession with cutting their deficits and the public debt. That the unemployment insurance plan has been transformed from a component of the traditional safety net into a retraining program is a further indication of the strength of this issue.

So, as contract talks go on between the community college employees and their employers, both sides would benefit from seeing the issue in these broad terms.

Keeping fit with fancy footwork

By Scott McNichol

Footwork was the theme for activities held at Conestoga College's Doon campus to mark Canada Fitweek from May 26 to June 4.

Sneaker day, held May 26, and the Doon walk, held June 1, were two events chosen by fitness consultant Elizabeth Mask, so that students, faculty and administration could easily participate.

"I tried to pick easy activities because usually you get more involvement that way," said Mask.

Fitweek is a nation-wide campaign designed to encourage

regular physical activity within the lifestyles of Canadians. It is set up by both provincial and federal governments along with 20 national organizations.

On May 26 people were encouraged to come to Conestoga wearing sneakers. The "sneaker patrol," consisting of Mask and three friends, handed out draw forms to anyone they saw wearing running shoes. These forms were to be filled out and dropped off at the recreation centre.

The draw was for T-shirts, buttons and lapel pins, all with a pink running shoe on them, which is the Fitweek logo. Five names were drawn on June 2.

"We received 70 forms back," said Mask. The winners were: Sheila MacLeod, Leslie Solonik, Marilyn Levesque, Don Chester and Bob Neath. Wendy Charlesworth and Lori Fox won prizes for having the best-decorated shoes.

According to Mask, the Doon walk also went quite well.

"We only had 12 people participate, but it was enjoyable and we gave out prizes along the way," she said, adding that there were no students, just staff and faculty members. This time coupons for prizes were hidden along the walk in balloons.

Kristin Higgins, Karen Wilson, Rena Borovilas, John Inanen and Catherine Krug were the winners for the Doon walk.

The prizes, Mask pointed out, were an extra attraction to the walk. She said the real intent was to give participants a break from the usual routine and a little exercise as well.

Mask, who has worked at the recreation centre for the past five years, said she will try to organize more fun activities during the regular school year.

"These activities shouldn't occur just because it's Canada Fitweek."

Although Fitweek started in Canada in 1983 it was not until last year that Conestoga College began to participate. Mask said she hopes next year's walk is attended by more people.



Photo by Eric Schmiedl/Spoke

Kristin Higgins receives her prize from Elizabeth Mask.

Dual wedding bells to chime for DSA

By Zora Jokic

Two Doon Student Association employees are tying the knot this summer, but not to each other.

Cheryl Wilson, activities co-ordinator, and Phil Olinsky, business manager, will be having their weddings within two weeks of each other, on June 24 and July 15, respectively.

Wilson, who has worked for the DSA for over one year, will be

attending the Canadian Organization of Campus Activities (COCA) conference, to be held in Edmonton. The conference, which lasts roughly a week, will feature comedy and musical groups.

Wilson will return from Edmonton roughly a week before her wedding date.

Wilson and her future husband, Arthur Davenport, will be travelling to Manzanillo, Mexico, for a

one-week honeymoon.

Olinsky and his future wife, Linda Stager, will travel to Jamaica for one week, then will head off on a one-week cruise to places like Montego Bay and Costa Rica, through the Panama Canal and to the island of Aruba.

"Neither of us has been away for a couple of years, so we decided to do it up right," Olinsky said of his honeymoon plans.

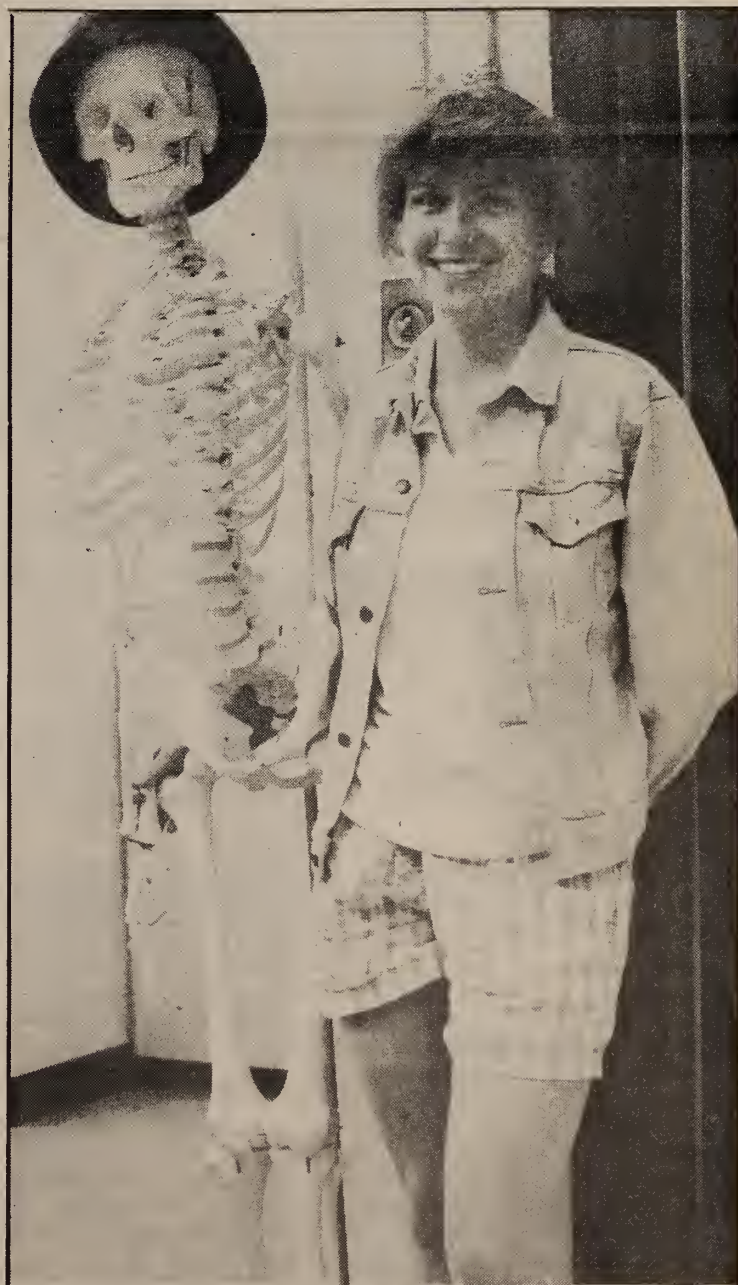


Photo by Zora Jokic/Spoke

It's a she

Sherree Wills, nursing student, walked her fleshless friend to class where Wills gave a presentation May 29. The two visited the Doon library first.

Detweiler Centre to get co-op students this fall

By Julie Lawrence

The Daniel B. Detweiler Centre will be offering a co-operative education program this fall to any high school students who are interested, said George Woods, academic co-ordinator at the centre.

Four students from the Waterloo Region Catholic schools — Cambridge's Monsignor Doyle and St. Benedict, Kitchener's St. David, St. Jerome's and St. Mary's — who have shown an interest and want to gain knowledge in electronics and electrical skills have been given the opportunity to get the background they need to enter the various related programs offered at the college, said Woods.

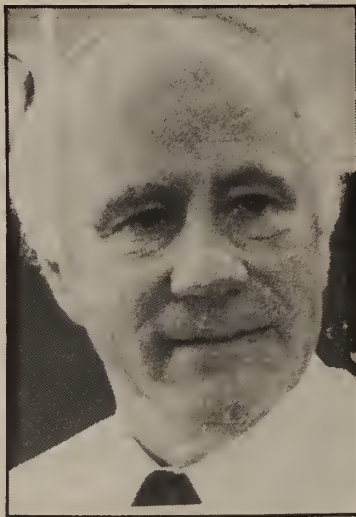
"It's still in the planning stages," said Woods, "but already we have 17 students in total inter-

ested in the co-op program being offered at the college."

Woods said so far, four students would be coming to the centre for electrical skills — six for the numerical control, construction and civil engineering, wood products, electronics and mechanical programs. One or two students will be placed in welding and the remaining five or six students will be floating around to different programs.

"The four students coming to the centre will be assigned to a different instructor almost every day," said Woods, "doing various lab projects, assisting the instructor in setting up experiments and helping the technicians with their various duties."

Woods didn't see the point in having the students sit in a class that they really didn't understand,



George Woods

and said they couldn't be expected to participate or learn something, although some classrooms will be a part of their co-op.

The high school students will also be given free time to do their own experiments, said Woods. This will give them an opportunity to explore what they always wanted to know about electricity, he added.

The students will be evaluated by the instructors for the projects they do, said Woods, but there will be no written tests. In the afternoon a high school teacher will be coming to teach a business English course to the 17 students.

The co-op program itself will give the students three credits towards their high school diploma — two on-the-job credits for the work-related experiments and one in-school classroom knowledge. In addition they will also be getting a credit for their business English course, said Woods.

In a previous SPOKE article, Paul Kurtz, technology co-or-

dinators, said the technology-based co-operative education program was designed to give high school students who have not yet solidified their career goals, a chance to explore the area of technology.

It was also designed as an attempt to counteract the low enrolment problem the technology programs have been facing the last couple of years, said Kurtz. He hopes this kind of educational awareness will get more students interested in entering these fields.

The co-op program was designed to run for 14 weeks, from September to December. The students will be returning to their high schools to continue their regular studies the rest of the school year, said Kurtz.

It is hoped, said Kurtz, the students will return to Conestoga the following year to continue their technology studies.



Photo by Julie Lawrence/Spoke

George Woods shows dynamo motor to high school students while they toured the centre.

Tour provides history lesson

By Julie Lawrence

Students from Norwell District Secondary School in Palmerston took the Age of Change tour of the Daniel B. Detweiler Centre on June 1.

George Woods, academic co-ordinator, conveyed a brief history of electricity to the 10 students who were interested in pursuing a career in electrical studies.

Beginning the tour in the Dynamo Room — the front lobby of the centre — the students saw a large dynamo motor embedded in the floor.

The centre itself houses a great deal of the history of electricity and related inventions, said Woods, as he showed pictures of such famous inventors as Thomas Edison, who created the first practical electric light, and Charles P. Steinmetz, who was the chief consulting engineer for General Electric.

Woods told the students almost every room at the centre is named after a famous electrical inventor. That is what the Detweiler Centre is all about — creating the next

generation of inventors, Woods said.

"The pictures of the famous inventors on the centre's walls give the students the inspiration to pursue a career in electrical studies," said Woods.

The maintenance machine shop room was named after Alex H. Welker, said Woods. He helped build steam engines in Waterloo and gasoline engines in Kitchener. Welker was made an honorary member of the electric club at Conestoga in 1981 for his lifetime involvement and interest in electricity, Woods said.

Woods stopped the students at a small display window located outside the main lobby. He asked the students what they thought the small motor-like object behind the glass might be.

Woods said the students really didn't have a clue that it was a sexscope, a machine that tested the sex of chickens.

"Even the strangest electrical inventions made people a great deal of money," said Woods. Many

years ago people paid large sums of money to have the inventor come to their house to test chickens, he added.

Woods ended the tour by inviting the students to ask questions regarding the programs. Even after the tour, said Woods, the students seemed unclear as to what different programs the college had to offer. They didn't seem to understand the programs offered at the centre were quite different from those offered on the main campus, he added.

Woods encouraged the students to get involved in the technology programs because there is a demand for people in all areas.

The placement rate of the centre's graduates is 100 per cent. Most graduates had jobs prior to completing their course, said Woods.

Only two or three of the students on the tour had actually made a choice as to what they were going to do next year, said Woods. He hopes the tour might encourage the students to come to the college and to the Detweiler Centre.

Nurses view careers

By Eric Schmiedl

Conestoga College's nursing students got a chance to examine job options during the second annual health sciences career fair, held at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre June 2.

Pat Legault, manager of the health sciences programs, said she was "very pleased with the turnout." Thirty-seven health care agencies attended the fair.

Legault said the fair was a good way for students to be introduced to employment opportunities.

"Before last year we were getting requests from different hospitals wanting to come and meet with our students," Legault said, adding "we thought it was too disruptive to the students' programs to have people coming in a lot of odd times, so we thought it might be better to have agencies invited at the same time."

Legault said last year the fair was held after nursing students were finished classes. However, students requested a switch to an earlier date this year.

Bill Jeffrey, dean of health sciences, said there were two reasons for

having the career fair.

The fair gave students the chance to look at different careers in nursing, as well as giving them employment opportunities, Jeffrey said.

"They (the students) are definitely looking at the market," Jeffrey said. The market was doing some looking as well, according to Jeffrey.

"Many of the agencies, hospitals that are here, are here to recruit," Jeffrey said.

"They know our graduates have a good reputation in the health care market," he added.

Patsy Marshall, director of education at Homewood Sanitarium in Guelph, said the sanitarium has hired Conestoga graduates in the past. Marshall said she was overwhelmed at the number of participants in the fair last year, and were glad to take part again this year.

Karen Fedy, first-year nursing student, said she was at the fair "just to see what's going on."

"I'm not sure what area I'd like to work in yet — I'm only first-year," Fedy said.

Programs displayed

By Julie Lawrence

The technology programs from Guelph, Cambridge and Doon campuses were featured in a display June 1 to 3 at Market Square in downtown Kitchener. It was an attempt by the co-ordinators to get more people interested in the programs, which currently have low enrolment rates.

The shoppers couldn't help but stop to take a look at the large display, said Jennifer Leith, co-ordinator of liaison services. It filled the entire lobby of the main entrance with pieces of equipment identifiable to each program and information packages for the interested shoppers.

Roy Kumm, electrical skills instructor at the Daniel B. Detweiler Centre, said he would have liked more noise-making equipment which would have drawn the curious shoppers to the displays and held their attention longer.

Leith said she was hoping to emphasize that you are never too old or of the wrong gender

to get involved in a college program.

Charlie Hatchard, recruitment co-ordinator, said the toughest part of his job is trying to promote some of the not-so-traditional or popular programs.

"Who wants to be a welder these days?", said Hatchard. The high school students especially are not made aware of the demand in industry for people from the welding engineering technician program, or the money to be made in this field, he added. Welding had been placed on the government's skilled-shortage list for as long as he could remember.

There was a good response to the various displays, said Hatchard. On June 3 alone about three people signed up for the various programs and about four or five others expressed an interest in some of the upgrading courses offered.

The display proved beneficial for the college's image and programs, said Hatchard. Leith is hoping to have similar displays rotating throughout high schools.

POT — POURRI

Zodiac queen back to predict some really grim forecasts

Madam



Starsky

YOUR HORRORSCOPE

I'm back for another two weeks of my perfectly horrid predictions. So you can't get enough, eh, fellow stargazers? Well...I've got some especially outrageous forecasts for you. (Eat your heart out, Jeanne Dixon).

Aries: The rams are at it again! This time though, your co-ordination has improved somewhat. Instead of colliding with all objects and people, you seem to be aiming for other rams. Watch out — one of those rams may turn out to be a real one.

Taurus: Without a doubt, you

bulls are the world's most inflexible people, as you will once again prove in the next two weeks. Your friends will try to change your hairstyle, but you stubbornly insist you like your purple, woolly tresses the way they are.

Gemini: Geminis crave Greek, Chinese, Italian, Mexican and American food — all at once. The only way to satisfy this bizarre craving is to visit your local shopping mall eatery.

Cancer: You are hiding from yourself — so much so that when you look in the mirror you see nothing but the objects behind you. Drink red dye, then watch your image reappear.

Leo: Leos tend to feel lazy in the next week or so. But nobody seems to notice since you are usually a slack-off. In fact, don't be surprised when your friends say you are unusually active when you manage to take a break in your non-existent day to make a phone call.

Virgo: Virgos take a holier-than-thou attitude after the 13th, when Venus crosses Virgona, planet of the virgins. Plans to open a virgin cult camp will solidify after you hire a Virgonian leader to speak at a cult conference.

Libra: For you unbalanced, high-strung Librans, settle down with a good book and a doob. Things will fall neatly into place and life will be a beach — at least for an hour or so.

Scorpio: This week your smelly breath will make you unpopular with everyone. Your best bet is to head quickly to the drug store and buy a bottle of myriadic acid. Guaranteed to clean your breath, not to mention your throat...and the rest of your body.

Sagittarius: A nightmare featuring Pegasus the flying unicorn symbolizes your true heritage. You find the need to take solace in a cabbage patch to sort out your mixed feelings.

Capricorn: You fall ill during the next two weeks. A visit to your vet will show you have swallowed a bad batch of stinging nettle. Hydrogen peroxide fed intravenously will cure the itches.

Aquarius: You really like to suck back the booze, eh? That's fine — as long as you don't give in to your real desire for antifreeze and Aqua Vella.

Pisces: Your cravings for tuna and pickled herring will get you stuck in a rancid fish plant while being chased by mutant ninja turtles. Don't make any trips to the east coast for a while.



The Wingwang Advisory

aka: Sam Slander revisited

Dear WA:

There's been a strange man following me around lately. I'm used to this, as I'm an attractive 21-year-old woman — but his trenchcoat, dark hat and beady little eyes are giving me the willies. What do you think?
Sultry and scared

Dear Sultry:

I think you're being too hard on the poor fellow. You should approach him with a loving, caring attitude. You may be surprised.

Dear Mr. Slander:

I just wanted to thank you very much for your kind contribution to the poor of our society. If more people like you would give up your used clothing, our destitute would be much better off. I'm sure your old trenchcoat and hat made somebody's life much brighter.
Thankful charity

Dear Thankful:

Umm...err...

Dear WA:

I think it's disgraceful the way people leave food in restaurants. Even though millions around the world are hungry, they just let all kinds of morsels go to waste. What can be done about this?
Angry connoisseur

Dear Angry:

Do what I do. As soon as the wasteful people leave, go around and collect all the leftovers. You may get some funny looks now and again,

but at least the tasty treats won't be left ignored.

Dear WA man:

Like wow, man, I'm like really getting bummed out by, like, all the guys saying, like, you ache. I think you're just wahooooo and everything. It just makes me... you know... like annoyed I think.

Wheeeeee

Dear Wheeeeee:

Thanks...I think.

Dear WA,

Sometimes vending machines really get on my nerves. We're heading into the 21st century. Why can't people come up with a machine that'll simply take your money and give you what you want? What can be done about these money-grubbing devices?

Red-hot vendee

Dear Red-hot:

Nothing, really — unless you own a crowbar.

Dear WA:

I have nothing to say or complain about, really. Everything in the world is going great, as far as I see it. Life couldn't be better.

Blissful

Dear Blissful:

Boy, do you sound like you're in rough shape. Been swiggin' back the Crown Royal again, have you?

BEERNUTS featuring Sam Slander

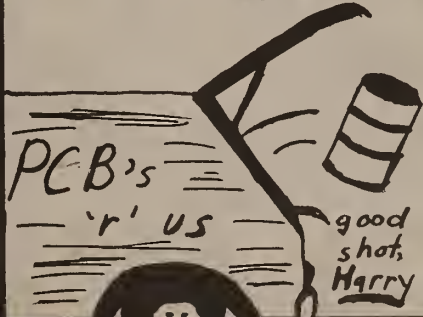
By Eric Schmiedl

The origin of Sam Slander

A truckload of used National Enquirers lay rotting at the dump...



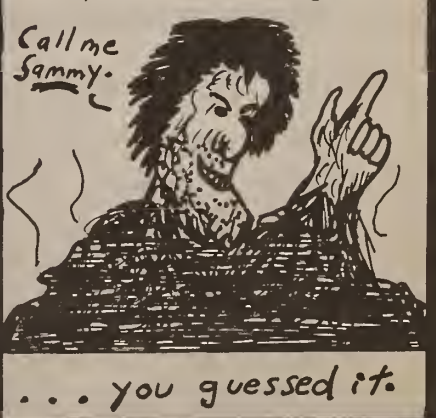
where PCB-laced high octane fuel was inadvertently unloaded.



An incredible reaction took place...



And up from the muck emerged...



NEXT: The powers of Sam Slander

Kids get their kicks at martial arts tournament



Ed Dufour (right) prepares to block a kick from John Bauer.



Ed Dufour bends in pain after a kick to the neck.



Heather McKeon spars with opponent Susanne Hasilo.

Story and photos by Scott McNichol

About 150 children between the ages of four and 16 attended an annual junior martial arts competition June 3 at Conestoga College's Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

The Tai Kwon-Do tournament was held for all people across Ontario in the Chung Oh school.

The children were divided into two groups: juniors, aged seven to 16 and tiny, aged four to six.

"I am quite pleased to see so many kids out," said Chung Oh, founder of the school. He added that his biggest concern for the day was to see that no one got seriously hurt. About 25 judges and referees

participated in the event, in which rules prevented hitting below the waist or to the head.

Susanna Garmendez, first-year nursing student at Conestoga College, was a referee. Garmendez has a black belt, which is the highest colored belt in the sport.

Jamie Caza, a competitor from Windsor, said that there are six levels of Tai Kwon-Do, each represented by a different colored belt. The colors, from lowest to highest are white, yellow, green, blue, red and black.

The competition was split into two events — the first called the pattern, in which each contestant

performed a series of moves learned within their level.

The second event was called sparring, in which two individuals used their moves on each other in an attempt to score points. Points were given for using the right move at the right time.

The judges specified that the competitors were not to intentionally hit each other, although there were times when someone was knocked to the ground.

The children competed for such prizes as trophies and 10-speed bikes. Four bikes were presented at the meet.

\$1,300 in awards given at electronics banquet

By Scott McNichol

This year's electronics engineering technology banquet, held April 29, was one of the best yet, said Fraser Cooper, faculty member.

The event, organized by two graduating students, was held at Kitchener's Chicopee Ski Club.

"It was one of the best graduations ever held," said Cooper, adding that the banquet was well attended by both teachers and students.

Unfortunately John Tibbits, college president, was unable to make the event because he was given such short notice, said Cooper. The only other people—besides teachers and students—were those presenting awards.

Eight awards were given totalling more than \$1,300. Toby Boydell received \$500 from Cambridge-based manufacturer of microwave and telecommunications components COM DEV; Edward Janssen, Allen-Bradley Award

(\$200); Harald Petersen, C.M. Peterson Award (\$300); Johnny Ancich, Hewlett Packard Award (11-C hand-held calculator).

Other winners were Tonatiu Abrego, first-year student, and Scott Ferguson, second-year student, Raytheon Canada Award (\$100 each); Keith Brown, IEEE McNaughton Scholarship (tuition fee to the McNaughton Centre, Conestoga College); Doug Bedrosian and Gord Boerke, Faculty Award (\$50 each).

The IEEE Ken McKenzie Award (\$150 and a plaque) was presented to a student group consisting of Lorne Diebel, Brent Bauman, Richard Bonham, Doug Bedrosian, Ed Janssen and John Brajuka.

Electronics engineering, a three-year program, had a 100-per-cent placement of its 31 graduates from the class of 1988. The program is designed to prepare students to enter the field of electronics with up-to-date knowledge and skills.

Centre teaches motor standards test

By Julie Lawrence

Apprentices from the various programs at the Daniel B. Detweiler Centre are learning how to administer a Canadian Standards Association (CSA) test on motors.

Norm Socha, electrical skills teacher, has duplicated a CSA testing procedure that will show the apprentices what happens when a motor seizes up in certain appliances.

CSA puts products and equipment through a series of tests to make sure they are safe for public use. The tests also make the public aware of the hazards involved in working with such items.

George Woods, academic co-ordinator, said an example is putting the motors from refrigerators and bathroom exhaust fans through a series of winding resistance and temperature checks. This will teach the apprentice what happens when a motor fails to operate and seizes up.

When a motor stops turning or functioning like it should, said Woods, it begins to heat up and eventually catches fire.

But a small CSA-approved motor, designed for appliances that remain operating for a long period of time, like the ones in



Scott Gruber (left) and Jamie Corrigan Photo by Julie Lawrence/Spoke

refrigerators, will not get hotter than a certain temperature, added Woods. Therefore it won't catch fire.

The 18-day test (18 being the average number of days a person spends on holidays), gives the apprentice a chance to examine on a daily basis what happens during this period of time. If a motor burns out in a person's refrigerator the day after he leaves for his holidays, the question is whether there will be a house to return to or whether

it will be burned down because of the burnt-out motor, said Woods. "You will know a motor is shot in the fridge when it stops keeping things cold," not when it burns the house down, said Woods.

The results of the CSA test should show that certain motors can stay seized up for at least 18 days, said Woods.

All the apprentices take part in the 18-day test, said Woods, because they may one day work for a company who does CSA testing.

Cockburn looses volley of protest at Centre in the Square

By Michael-Allan Marlon

Bruce Cockburn called a press conference May 24 at the Centre in the Square and announced his intention to run for the office of God.

Or, so it seemed from his dress and the arsenal of judgmental protest songs that volleyed from the stage. White suit and T-shirt standing out against blood-red floodlights, he took his audience through a repertoire dominated by his pronouncements on an exhausting array of social and politi-

cal sins.

Regrettably, they're not his best songs. While they reveal the most passionate side of his persona, the lyrics are often crowded with brutal metaphors that overstate his message and word jungles that test the most versatile of melodic lines.

Gospel of Bondage was a prime example. "God must be on the side of the side that's right/And not the right that justifies itself in terms of might/least of all a bunch of neo-Nazis running hooded through the night." That's a harsh judgement

on a group of people that society considers misguided zealots. But, Cockburn apparently knows God better than most.

One ingenious feature in the piece, though, is his mocking use of church harmonies in the chorus; here Cockburn gives his invective a rest and lets the music make a more powerful statement.

To his credit, he also gave the

audience his better political songs: the bluesy Radium Rain and the simple, straightforward, If I Had a Rocket Launcher — this one is probably his best because he lets the facts in the story-telling speak for themselves.

Much of the audience were loyal fans in their mid-thirties who — it seems — came to hear precisely those songs. But for those unaccustomed to the roar of anger, Cockburn did provide some balance. He showed his romantic side with Lily

of the Midnight Sky and the poignant, smooth I Don't Feel Your Touch. He and his back-up, Fergus Marsh on stick and Michael Sloski, presented an absolutely thrilling instrumental in Tibetan Side of Town, complete with tubular bells and oriental percussion sounds.

By concert's end, though, Cockburn managed to make one thing abundantly clear: if the top position in the celestial firmament ever comes available, he would be a frontrunning candidate.

Opinion